

Accident Briefs (Aviation Accident Briefs)

Rotary-Wing MH-47

K Model

- Class C: The No. 2 engine experienced an oil leak during a post-maintenance operational check run-up.

OH-58

D(R) Model

- Class A: A pilot and co-pilot were injured when their aircraft crashed while performing a convoy security mission. The cause of the crash and sequence of events are undetermined at this time. The U.S. Army Combat Readiness Center is investigating the accident.

- Class C: Aircraft experienced an engine overspeed condition (122 percent for 3 seconds) during FADEC-manual mode operations.

- Class C: During an aircraft run-up on the ground without any collective applied, the aircraft started to overspeed the engine and rotor system. The pilot immediately reduced the throttle to idle, which remedied the overspeed; however, the FADEC monitor page displayed NP was 124 percent and NR within limits. The aircraft was shut down and maintenance was contacted.

- Class C: Aircraft experienced an engine overspeed condition during a low-level autorotation.

UH-60

A Model

- Class A: While on a basic combat skills training flight, the pilot attempted to conduct a roll-on landing at a stagefield and subsequently crashed. A Department of Army Civilian was killed in the crash and the remaining three crewmembers suffered non-life-threatening injuries.

L Model

- Class C: The slingload inadvertently separated from the aircraft about 50 meters from the runway during short final for landing.

- Class C: The main rotor blade of the trail aircraft in a ferry flight of three made contact with the MRB of the second aircraft while ground taxiing to parking. Both aircraft suffered damage.

Fixed-Wing

RQ-7B

- Class B: The unmanned aircraft system engine failed on approach to recovery site and impacted the ground, resulting in a total loss.
- Class C: The aerial vehicle operator experienced engine RPM-droop during flight. The recovery chute was deployed, but the UAS suffered damage on ground contact.

- Class C: The AVO experienced a FLIGHT SERVO FAIL reading during landing. The aircraft ultimately experienced a subsequent fuel exhaustion ENGINE-FAIL. The recovery chute deployed and the aircraft was recovered with damage.

--Do you employ the principles of composite risk management to all missions?

(Ground Accident Briefs) ACV

- Class A: A Soldier drowned when his M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle flipped into a canal. The Soldier had been driving along the canal when the road gave way and the BFV slipped down an embankment and into the water. The tank commander and gunner escaped without injury.

- Class A (Damage): An M2A3 was destroyed when a fire started inside the vehicle. A Soldier attempted to put out the fire with the onboard extinguishing systems, but detonation of onboard ammunition forced him to evacuate.

- Class B (Damage): An M2A2 BFV was being recovered via an M88 when a fire started in the M2A2's transmission. The recovery crew was able to extinguish the fire, but not before the vehicle sustained Class B damage.

AMV

- Class A: Two Soldiers drowned when their M1114 HMMWV overturned. The Soldiers were returning from a trip to the PX when the vehicle slid down an embankment and came to rest upside down in a canal. The driver of the HMMWV was not injured. Seat belt use was not reported.

--Have you rehearsed Your rollover drills?

- Class A: Two Soldiers were killed when their HMMWV collided with a privately owned tractor-trailer. After the collision, the HMMWV ran off the road and down a 30-foot embankment. The driver and a passenger in the HMMWV were fatally injured. A third Soldier who was riding in the vehicle was not injured. Seat belt use was not reported.

- Class B (Damage): An F350-model ambulance was damaged when it struck the main rotor system of a parked UH-60 aircraft while driving on an airfield. The driver of the ambulance was not injured.

Personnel Injury

- Class A: A Soldier suffered fatal injuries when he was struck by a round from his roommate's M4 weapon. The roommate had been cleaning the weapon when it discharged.

--Are your Soldiers practicing proper weapons handling?

- Class A: A Soldier was struck and fatally injured by a POV as he was crossing the eastbound lane of an interstate highway. The Soldier, along with two other Soldiers, had crossed the interstate earlier in the evening to go from their hotel to a pub to have dinner, during which all three drank alcohol. As they attempted to return across the interstate to their hotel, one of the Soldiers was struck by a POV. The Soldier was transported to a local medical center, where he later died.

- Class A: A Soldier was at a party when he fell from the third floor balcony. He was hospitalized with minimal brain activity and placed on life support. His injuries have been determined to represent a permanent total disability.

--Do your Soldiers understand alcohol impairs their judgment?

- Class B: A Soldier suffered a permanent partial disability while handling foreign munitions. The Soldier was inventorying an Afghan National Army ammunition supply point when he picked up a grenade to demonstrate/describe how it is used. The grenade detonated, amputating the Soldier's right hand.

- Class B: A Soldier suffered a permanent partial disability when he was shot in the back of the neck with a round from a 9 mm pistol. Another Soldier had been cleaning the weapon and dropped it, causing a round to discharge.

(Driving/Off-duty Accident Briefs)

The following reports reflect accidents that have happened to Soldiers in their privately owned vehicles, during recreational activities and in other non-tactical environments.

POV (CARS)

- Class A: A Soldier was riding as a passenger in a POV that was involved in a single-vehicle accident. As a result, the Soldier suffered paralyzing head, back and shoulder injuries.

- Class A: A National Guard Soldier was returning from Active Duty Support Work when his SUV overturned into a water-filled ditch. The vehicle came to rest inverted, trapping the Soldier and a passenger. The Soldier drowned.

- Class A: A Soldier was speeding around a curve in his SUV when he hit a set of railroad tracks, lost control, struck a culvert and rolled over. The Soldier, who wasn't wearing his seat belt, was ejected from his vehicle and killed.



--Have you told your Soldiers seat belts increase the odds for survival in a crash by 80 percent?

- Class A: Two Soldiers were en route to post when the driver lost control of his POV and struck a telephone pole and an embankment. The Soldier who was riding as a passenger suffered a paralyzing spinal injury.

--Do your Soldiers wear their seatbelts?

- Class A: A Soldier was driving his POV when he lost control and overturned several times. The Soldier was hospitalized and taken off life support the following day. The Soldier was not wearing his seat belt.

- Class A: Two Soldiers were on an off-ramp when the driver lost control of his vehicle, struck the guardrail and overturned three times. Although both Soldiers were wearing their seat belts, the driver suffered fatal injuries. The passenger was taken to a local medical center and listed in stable condition.

- Class C: A Soldier was driving under the influence of alcohol and not wearing his seat belt when he collided with a bus. The collision caused serious injuries to the Soldier and his passenger.

POM (Motorcycles)

- Class A: A Soldier was thrown from his motorcycle and killed when he moved to the right lane to pass a vehicle and rear-ended a tractor-trailer that was slowing to turn off the road. The Soldier had owned his bike for less than 12 days and was neither licensed nor had taken the required Motorcycle Safety Foundation training.

--Do you know who rides in your unit? Have you made sure they're trained?

- Class A: A Soldier was operating his motorcycle on a highway when a vehicle failed to yield right-of-way from a side street and struck the Soldier's motorcycle. The Soldier, who was wearing his helmet and personal protective equipment, suffered fatal injuries.

- Class A: Two Soldiers were operating their motorcycles when the lead rider entered an intersection and struck a truck that failed to yield right-of-way. Despite wearing his helmet and all PPE, the lead rider was fatally injured. The following rider managed to avoid the truck, but also crashed and suffered minor injuries.

- Class A: A Soldier was operating his motorcycle over a canal bridge when another vehicle moved

into his lane. The Soldier attempted to move to the right to allow more room but lost control, dropped his bike and slid to a stop. The Soldier was transported to a hospital, where he was treated for a broken shoulder. The Soldier was wearing his PPE; however, military police determined from the length of his skid that he was riding at an excessive speed.

Editor's note:

Information published in this section is based on preliminary mishap reports submitted by units and is subject to change. For more information on selected accident briefs, call DSN 558-9552 (334-255-9552) or DSN 558-3410 (334-255-3410).